(b) if so, the measures proposed to claim their dues and rescue such other women stranded in Kuwait and other countries like Saudi Arabia etc.?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Repatriation/deportation of maids takes place from time to time. As and when the Indian housemaids working in Kuwait approach the Indian Mission with complaints of less or non-payment of wages or ill treatment, the Indian Missions intervene with the sponsors/employers. If no solution is found and the maids do not want to go back to the empoyers, they are provided shelter by the Mission. Repatriation of such maids is undertaken after the clearance of the local authorities has been obtained. If the sponsor is not willing to provide air tickets, arrangements for return air fare is made by the Indian Associations/Voluntary Organisations/Government of Kuwait. The arrangements for providing air tickets to 22 women housemaids in question were made by the Indian Women's League.

Organisations Invited in the Meeting of Standing Labour Committee

3017. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of small scale industry were invited to the 35th meeting of the Standing Labour Committee;

(b) if so, the names of the additional organisations invited by Government for the meeting;

(c) whether Government received requests from Indian Council for Small Scale Industries for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not inviting this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and Laghu Udygo Bharati (LUB) were also invited to participate in the 35th Session of the Standing Labour Committee. The representative of Indian Council of Small Industries also attended Conference as "Observer".

Violation of Statutory Labour Laws

3018. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that blatant violation of statutory labour laws is taking place in Pawan Hans Ltd., Delhi office;

(b) if so, whether contractual employees who have been employed through private contractors and have put in over 8-9 years service have still not been made permanent in service;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to grant them permanent status on an immediate basis?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Complaint from ONGC Employees Association

3019. SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any complaint from ONGC Employees Association, Calcutta regarding illegal deductions from monthly salary by ONGC vide office order No. 11(23)97 EP dated 6.8.98;

(b) whether the self-contributory PRBs scheme with reference to aforesaid order dated 6.8.98 is a statutory scheme of Government;

(c) whether his Ministry has given any exemption to the aforesaid PRBs scheme as per E.P.S. 1995 under Act No. 25 of 1996; and

(d) what action Government have taken so far, against ONGC in response to letter of ONGC Employees Association?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) M/s. ONGC had applied for grant of exemption from the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995. As there are several deficiencies in the Pension Scheme of M/s. ONGC, their request for exemption has not been found in order. Accordingly, necessary legal proceedings have been initiated to workout the pension contribution due from the establishment. The matter has also been taken up with the Ministry of Petroleum for securing compliance under the Employees' Pension Scheme from the ONGC.

Proposal for Changing the Trade Union Act

3020. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make changes in the Trade Union Act to control the unchecked growth of unions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) Various amendments to the Trade Unions Act, 1926 are proposed based on the requirements of the social partners and in consonance with economic reforms. A cautions policy is adopted to bring about amendments in the Trade Unions Act after taking into consideration all the relevant factors.

Unemployment Allowance to Unemployed Youth

3021. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments are giving unemployment allowance;

(b) if so, what are those State Governments and the amount of allowance given by them to each unemployed youth and the amount borne by the Central Government out of that;

(c) whether Orissa Government has recently announced some unemployment allowance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Governments of Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are paying unemployment allowance ranging from Rs. 50 to Rs. 400 P.M. to specified category of educated unemployed registered with the Employment Exchanges from their own resources.

The Government of Maharashtra has a scheme for providing financial assistance to educated unemployed.

(c) and (d) The Government of Orissa have, in the Governor's Speech in Orissa Assembly on 15.3.99 proposed to make a beginning in providing unemployment doles to registered educated unemployed with a view to covering all registered unemployed within a period of five years.

Workers in Fish Processing Industry

3022. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the available labour laws to assist the workers in fish processing industry;

(b) how many workers are engaged in this industry; and